



# MWR to hold July 4 festivities

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MWR MARKETING                      HNN STAFF WRITER

Morale, Welfare and Recreation at Pearl Harbor will host an annual 4th of July block party from 2-10 p.m. on Avenue A at Pearl Harbor.

Sailors and their families can celebrate their Independence Day with live entertainment, games and a spectacular fireworks display. The block party is free and open to the public.

“We have been doing this for more than a decade and it has evolved into a mammoth event filled with exciting and exhilarating activities for everyone to enjoy,” said Lara Askerooth, Special Events Coordinator for MWR.

Activities for kids of all ages will be available. A petting zoo with baby chicks, rabbits, a cow, a pony, a baby goat and more will be on display near McDonald’s. A bounce house will be a great activity for kids and Uncle Sam will stroll around making balloon animals for children and handing out free American flags.

A bungee run, a giant slide, an obstacle course and the Climber’s Paradise Rock Wall will be available for all adventure seeking spectators. Carnival games booths will be scattered up and down Avenue A, while Lamborghinis, Ferraris and other fast cars will be outside the Mini-Mart for viewing. Guido Salmaggito will perform the national anthem to the aerial fireworks spectacular scheduled for 8:30 p.m.

“Since the inception of this event, the focus has been to serve both single Sailors and Sailors with families,” said Askerooth. “Looking to give something back to the community, this event offers a wide variety of quality entertainment and recreational activities. Children won’t want to miss the free petting zoo and Renaissance Pavilion while the young Sailors can catch all the excitement in the boxing ring and car hopping competition,” concluded Askerooth.

The July 4th Block Party and Aerial Fireworks Spectacular at Pearl Harbor has attracted thousands of party-goers from around the island for a day of non-stop fun and entertainment. A myriad of activities geared for all ages has been planned throughout the day.

“This event offers a fun and memorable setting for families to spend America’s Independence Day together,” said Jones. “Families are always looking for events and activities that they can enjoy together and this event provides something for all ages. And, of course, the fireworks will be a dynamic finish.”

Several streets in the heart of Pearl Harbor will be open only to foot traffic for the big, blow-out block party filled with wonderful activities aimed to please everyone. Parking and access to the base will be available at Naval Station Pearl Harbor’s Bloch Arena on Center Drive near Nimitz Gate. Vehicular access to Pearl Harbor will remain restricted to DoD personnel with a valid DoD sticker and identification card.

For more information about the July 4th Block Party, call the MWR hotline at 473-2434.

- ### Family Fun Entertainment
- “Pearl Harbor” showing at Sharkey Theatre at 11 a.m. Admission is free for active duty, \$2 for adults, \$1 for children age 6-12 and age five and under is free. The movie is rated PG-13.
  - Carnival games and food by EK Fernandez features all your favorites food, from hot dogs and burgers to shave ice and local plate lunches. Win the grand daddy of stuffed animals in a variety of carnival games, including ring toss, hy-striker and more.
  - July 4th craft fair showcases more than 40 vendors and their homemade artsy keepsakes, Hawaiian crafts and much more.
  - Keiki farm petting zoo has friendly animals to play with the keiki for free.
  - Nozawa’s Ark Pony Rides take your keiki on unforgettable riding fun.
  - EuroBungee Trampoline combines the thrill of jumping and flipping on a safe and sizable trampoline.
  - Glow-In-The-Dark Galaxy Bubbles Tent takes you into a fantasy world of kaleidoscopic bubbles.
  - A 33-foot inflatable tsunami wave slide is the latest and hottest monstrous slide on the island. The twin sliding lanes more than double the fun.
  - Rock climbing wall offers aspiring mountaineers a safe and challenging setting for a great adventure.
  - Rock ‘Em & Sock ‘Em says it all. Challenge a friend or a foe.
  - Xtreme Fun Xpress Train takes keiki on a memorable joy ride on party grounds.
  - The Jurassic Survivor Obstacle Course challenges the brave on a 360-degree obstacle course.
  - Other activities, including a variety of keiki inflatables, a merry-go-round ride, Wheel of Fortune game, Joust About, Medieval Renaissance Pavilion and much, much more.

- ### Main Stage Live Entertainment
- 2-10 p.m. Auto exhibition - This is an automobile aficionados’ dream world. A display of the best collection from Hawaii Corvette Association, the 50th State Pro Gas Association (a non-profit car racing organization), JN Chevrolet and Harley Davidson.
- 2-2:45 p.m. Baton twirlers - Award-winning baton twirlers from across the U.S. will open the stage with impressive twirling and spinning skills using batons, flags, hoops, ribbons and poms.
- 2-4 p.m. Boxing tournament - Get your front row seats early to enjoy some of the best amateur boxing on the island. This year’s event features James Picarra, the runner-up of the recent Hawaii Golden Glove Tournament.
- 3-4 p.m. “America’s Freedom” - A patriotic musical revue performed by the Hurrah Players—a cast of talented aspiring actors and actresses from Norfolk, Va. Lavish costumes and popular tunes from a by-gone era will all be part of this theatrical extravaganza.
- 3, 4:30 and 6 p.m. Unidos car-hopping competition - Lowriding has definitely reached new heights here in Hawaii. Dozens of low riding cars and trucks will be vying for titles and big cash and will show off their stuff in the “Show ‘n’ Shine” exhibition area. Last year’s champion—a Mazda pickup truck, which hopped 53 inches, will be back to defend its title.
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. J.P. Smoketrain - A Chicago-style blues band, J.P. Smoketrain has played alongside such luminaries as Buddy Guy and BB King. Blues lovers will not want to miss this great performance.
- 5:30-6 p.m. Au’s Shaolin Chinese Lion Dance - In Hawaii, a celebration of this magnitude calls for a major drumming hoopla. A cultural Chinese Lion Dance by Au’s Shaolin Arts Society will perform this “good luck” festivity with 10,000 Chinese firecrackers. Don’t forget to “feed” the lion for good fortune to come your way.
- 6-7 p.m. Ka’ala Boys - The fabulous Ka’ala Boys need no introduction. This dynamic group of seasoned songsters and musicians is the hottest Hawaiian Contemporary band on the island.
- 7:30-8:30 p.m. The Dick Jensen Show - Dick Jensen is arguably the most polished professional entertainer in Hawaii. He headlined numerous hotels in Las Vegas and appeared twice on the Ed Sullivan Show. His dazzling showmanship and top-notch entertainment make this a must-see show.
- 8:30-9 p.m. Guido Salmaggi & Fireworks Display - A prelude to the spectacular Grucci Brothers Fireworks display, Guido Salmaggi, formerly of the New York City Opera, will deliver an incredible rendition of the national anthem. Fifteen glorious minutes of the world-famous pyrotechnics will follow. Don’t miss it.
- 9-10 p.m. “Honolulu” the Band - This sensational show band was voted “band of the year” in Reno, Nev. Their unique Las Vegas-style performance has charmed islanders and visitors alike for many years. More entertainment...
- On Stage 2, sponsored by Coca Cola, an array of entertainment has been scheduled, including live bands—The Woodrose and Women with Guitars, a baton twirling show, MWR Iroquois Point Cheer and Dance Team, Hawaii Okinawan Karate demonstration and more.



Pearl Harbor’s Avenue A is transformed into a variety of food and activity booths for July 4th festivities. Activities geared for all ages have been planned throughout the day for this year’s July 4th Block Party held by MWR.

